



AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject: Resolution No. 4547		Date: December 16, 2009
Department: Finance	Attachments: Resolution No. 4547	Budget Impact:
Administrative Recommendation: City Council adopt Resolution No. 4547.		
Background Summary: Resolution No. 4547 supports a secure, convenient medicine return program to reduce the public safety and environmental impacts of unwanted medicines.		
N1221-6 O1.8		
Reviewed by Council & Committees: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Airport <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Examiner <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services <input type="checkbox"/> Park Board <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Comm. </div> <div> COUNCIL COMMITTEES: <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Serv. <input type="checkbox"/> Planning & CD <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ </div> </div>		Reviewed by Departments & Divisions: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Fire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Information Services </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> M&O <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Parks <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources </div> </div>
Action: Committee Approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Council Approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Call for Public Hearing ___/___/___ Referred to _____ Until ___/___/___ Tabled _____ Until ___/___/___		
Councilmember: Backus		Staff: Coleman
Meeting Date: December 21, 2009		Item Number: VIII.B.1

RESOLUTION NO. 4 5 4 7

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, WASHINGTON, SUPPORTING A SECURE, CONVENIENT MEDICINE RETURN PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF UNWANTED MEDICINES

WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths have increased so as to surpass car accidents as the leading cause of accidental deaths in Washington State, and 40% of poisoning deaths involve prescription opioid pain relievers; and

WHEREAS, abuse of prescription pain killers ranks second, only behind marijuana, as the Nation's most prevalent illegal drug problem; and

WHEREAS, abuse of medicines by teenagers is a growing problem, including abuse of prescription drugs such as painkillers, sleeping pills, anti-anxiety drugs, and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medications, as well as over-the-counter drugs, such as cough and cold remedies; and

WHEREAS, over half of the people using prescription drugs for non-medical reasons obtained them from a friend or relative for free, and 15% of 10th graders in Washington who abused prescription pain relievers got them from their own home or someone else's home without permission; and

WHEREAS, unwanted medicines left in the home could increase opportunities for drug abuse, drug diversion, and accidental poisonings, and

WHEREAS, unwanted medicines disposed to sanitary sewer systems are not completely treated by the wastewater treatment facilities, allowing pharmaceuticals to be released into the environment; and

WHEREAS, disposal of unwanted medicines to residential garbage is not secure and medicines in solid waste systems may end up in landfill leachate, which is pumped to wastewater treatment facilities, eventually allowing pharmaceuticals to be released into the environment; and

WHEREAS, pharmaceuticals have been detected in the surface waters of Washington State and around the United States and in the drinking water of 24 major metropolitan areas affecting 41 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, the number and volume of pharmaceuticals prescribed to U.S. residents has increased dramatically in the past decade with Washington State residents now purchasing an average of 9 prescriptions per year, resulting in greater accumulations in Washington State homes, and

WHEREAS, unused or unwanted quantities of prescription and over-the-counter medicines are projected to be substantial, with some studies estimating that between 30% and 80% of patients do not finish commonly prescribed medicines such as pain medicines, antibiotics, and beta blockers; and

WHEREAS, a pilot medicine return project operating in Washington State since October of 2006 by Group Health Cooperative and Bartell Drugs has collected more than 27,000 pounds of unwanted household pharmaceuticals, demonstrating the demand and feasibility of such a system; and

WHEREAS, sheriff and police offices in several Washington counties and cities are operating drug take-back programs that collect and dispose of legally prescribed controlled substances; and

WHEREAS, communities are struggling to implement and finance programs to address the public safety impacts of leftover medicines in resident's homes and the environmental impacts of improper disposal of unwanted medicines; and

WHEREAS, pharmaceutical manufacturers currently operate and fund successful drug take-back systems in Canada and several countries in Europe.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council of the City of Auburn supports adoption of "secure medicine return" legislation that would establish a convenient, safe, secure, and environmentally sound medicine return program for unwanted medicines from households through an internalized pharmaceutical manufacturer financing mechanism that covers the cost of collection, transportation, and hazardous waste disposal, and does not rely on state and local government funding; and the City Council encourages those agencies and entities that can assist to establish and implement such a program to work together to do so.

Section 2. That the Mayor is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in full force upon passage and signatures hereon.

Dated and Signed this _____ day of _____, 2009.

CITY OF AUBURN

PETER B. LEWIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Danielle E. Daskam, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney